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to restrict himself to a comparatively short time, and this restriction, indeed, is the basis of the success of Sander's work. It enabled him to reach absolute completeness for the decade in question, and as a consequence we are today perhaps better informed of the financial system and the financial operations of Nuremberg in the years 1431-40 than we are of any other city for any other decade; and we are certainly better prepared to study municipal accounting and municipal finances in any country at any period than we were before the appearance of Sander's book.

While Sander in laying his main stress upon the period from 1431 to 1440 shows us the free city of Nuremberg at the highest point of its economic and intellectual development, the collection of decrees of the municipal council edited by Theodor Hampe starts shortly after that decade and leads us down to the time of depression in the Thirty Years' War. These decrees are contained in a series of more than two thousand small volumes mostly written in a very bad and negligent hand, and the task of Hampe would have been a tremendous one even had he not accompanied the original text with numerous notes which show his close familiarity with the other unprinted and printed material on the subject. A short introduction on this literature and very careful indexes enhance the value of his work.

The abundance of information which the student of economics can derive from this collection is still more surprising in view of its title than in the case of Sander's work. The distinctions between arts, artistic handicrafts, and simple handicrafts were so vague in old Nuremberg that Hampe necessarily desisted from drawing a sharp line between them and included several thousand decrees which in fact pertain to the relations between the municipal council and the handworking industries.

R. R. KUCZYNSKI.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS RECEIVED

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Pratt, Edwin A. *Railways and Their Rates. With an Appendix on the British Canal Problem.* (Second edition.) London: John Murray, 1906. 8vo, pp. ix+361. 1s net.

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